

4. Technology inputs

The Computer Training facilities have been created in various institutes to impart computer application training to SFS and Range Forest Officers as well as to improve office functioning.

Poaching of Animals in Madhya Pradesh

2806. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether poaching of Chinkaras, Neelgai and Tiger goes on unabated in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) whether photographs showing poachers with Tigers killed inside Bandhabgarh National Park appeared in newspapers;

(c) if so, the action taken against the accused for hunting wild animals; and

(d) the action taken against the Forest Officials for dereliction of duty in allowing hunting freely in the forests?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) Incidences of poaching of wild animals including Tiger, Neelgai etc. in Madhya Pradesh come to the notice of the Government from time to time.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. As reported by the Chief Wildlife Warden, Madhya Pradesh, the poachers shown in the photograph have been identified. One of the accused has been arrested by Rewa Police on 28.3.2000. The State Government has handed over the case to the Criminal Investigation Department of Madhya Pradesh.

(d) No conclusive evidence has been found against the forest officials for dereliction of duty.

Air Quality Index System in Delhi

2807. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether with the number of vehicles skyrocketing and the pollution levels becoming worse, a smog filled atmosphere appears to have become a permanent feature in the capital;